

SAILS and the Overdrive E-Audio Product

The 90 minute Overdrive presentation given to the SAILS members on January 19th was met with great enthusiasm by everyone in attendance. The members decided they wanted SAILS to begin investigating the feasibility of the network providing patrons with the ability to download popular audiobooks to MP3 players and home computers.

A committee of volunteers was formed by network president Robin Glasser. The members of the committee are: Carole Julius (Carver), Debbie Batson (Plympton), Danielle Bowker (Middleboro), Melissa Campbell (Plainville), Nancy Cappellini (Hanson), Olivia Melo (Rochester), Robin Glasser (Norfolk), Sharon St. Hilaire (Seekonk), Debby Conrad, and Laurie Lessner. The committee has been directed to Review the proposal from Overdrive along with accompanying documentation for the purpose of making a recommendation to the membership about purchase of the Overdrive product. The committee is specifically charged to make recommendations regarding funding, initial and long term costs and addressing policy questions raised by directors.

To prepare background information for the committee, SAILS posted a patron survey to get a measure of patron interest. 46% of the patrons who currently borrow audiobooks indicated that they would also be interested in being able to download audio books. 22% of the respondents who do not currently borrow audiobooks said they would be interested in the download option. Libraries currently offering this service have reported very enthusiastic patron response. We hope we will be able to make a final report to the network by the March newsletter.

MLA PR Awards

All Massachusetts libraries are invited by the MLA PR Committee to submit your best PR materials to apply for the 2005 MLA PR Awards. All categories of PR materials are eligible, including advertisements, booklists, bookmarks, brochures, campaigns, events, newsletters, poster, summer reading programs, website, and anything else you can think of! The deadline is Friday, February 25th. Details and the application are available on the MLA website—<http://www.masslib.org/PRAwards05/index.html>.

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Overdrive Customers

Cleveland Public Library:
<http://www.cpl.org/>

Denver Public Library:
<http://www.denverlibrary.org/>

San José Public Library:
<http://www.sjlibrary.org/>

New Addition to the SAILS Collection!

Steve Wilson is the proud father of an 8lb 2oz girl (Catherine Elizabeth). This brings the count of new babies in the SAILS office to a grand total of 4. All girls!



SAILS to Beta Test PayPal Electronic Bill Payment Option



Unicorn 2003.1.4 includes the ability to allow patrons to pay outstanding bills using the My Account option in iBistro. Buttons on the Review My Account window in iBistro and iLink allow patrons to use PayPal, an online payment service, to pay their library bills. PayPal accepts credit cards or direct debit from the patron's bank account.

After processing the payment, PayPal sends an Instant Payment Notification (IPN) to Unicorn, which then updates the patron record. The bills are paid. However, due to processing time, users will not see the payment immediately in Review My Account.

The option does allow individual libraries to set up PayPal accounts so payments will be sent directly to each library. As we will be beta testing this product, we expect it will take some time before we actively market this service to patrons. If it is successful this will provide users with an easy way to pay for outstanding library fees using credit and debit cards without requiring SAILS to store credit information in its database.

SAILS Responds

Each month SAILS will post responses to ideas and suggestions sent from the "Idea Box" form.

Q: We find that when searching ibistro, 95 percent of the time patrons want books not web sites. Yet they must type "NOT WEB" every time or get lots of unwanted information. Why can't the search default to books? If they want web sites, they can type "AND WEB" or "ADD WEB". This would be less confusing and less disappointing.

A: A solution you can use now would be to direct your patrons to the "Advanced Search" page. This way, they can search for just books by selecting "Books" from the format drop-down list.

History SAILS On... Adds Links!

Don't forget the great resource at your fingertips. History SAILS On... continues to add content and links to other notable digital collections. Last month we added a link to the New Bedford Whaling Collection and The Library of Congress' American Memory site. We will also be adding new content shortly, and a new search feature will be working by the end of this month!



Plumb Library Book Discussion Group

- **Talked about:** ["Memoirs of a Geisha"](#)
- **Ate:** sushi
- **Attendees:** 20+
- **Sat on:** every available surface!

OCLC Gaming Symposium—LAN Parties

I had the great fortune of attending the OCLC Gaming Symposium at Mid-Winter this year. It was worth standing at the Mansfield train station in the bitter cold! This was a panel discussion about the idea of gaming and how it effects us as librarians. It was really interesting to hear about the current generation—the Millennials and how their thinking and brains work so differently than the older generations (ours!). I'm currently reading *Millennials rising : the next great generation /* by Neil Howe and Bill Strauss. This is a term that you'll hear about in the future, so keep an eye on it. There is a website about the concept by the authors at: <http://www.millennialsrising.com/>. If you're wondering where in the generational table you lie, take a look:

<u>Generation</u>	<u>Birthyears</u>	<u>Famous man</u>	<u>Famous woman</u>
G.I.	1901-1924	John Kennedy	Clare Boothe Luce
Silent	1925-1942	Colin Powell	Gloria Steinem
Boomer	1943-1960	Steven Spielberg	Oprah Winfrey
Gen-X	1961-1981	Michael Jordan	Jodie Foster
Millennials	1982-2002?	Frankie Muniz	Mandy Moore

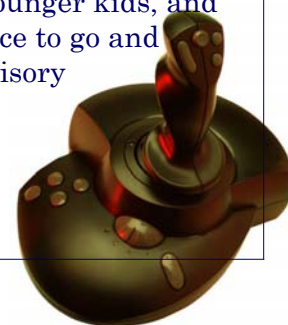
I'm assuming we don't have to go back further!

The most practical bit of information I gleaned from the program was from the Santa Monica Library. They created a LAN night, for teens in their community. It sounded great! Obviously it isn't do-able for everyone, but, in a nutshell, this is what they did. They set up all the pc's in their library (30 or so). They purchased and loaded the game Counterstrike (military game—yes, lots of blood). The party was conducted after library hours, from 6—11 pm.

At 3pm, there were kids—teenage boys—lined up around the block, waiting to get in! Only 2 girls came, and one was there with her boyfriend. The library bought pizzas, had soda and candy and made a big mess for the custodian, but everyone had a wonderful time! They were surprised that so many kids showed up, and more surprised at how personable the teens were. They wanted the adults to join in on the fun and the parents were grateful that the kids had a safe place to go.

They also saw that Instant Messenger was used by all, even for kids sitting next to each other. They were IM'ing and talking at the same time. For the kids who didn't have an available pc, they set up a screening of Anime.

They want to do this again, and came up with a laundry list of items to be aware of, including knowing if the HVAC system is on a timer. In CA it got pretty hot at night when the air conditioner went off! They're also going to have poetry slams, Yu-Gi-Oh tournaments for the younger kids, and more amine showings. Although this didn't increase circ, it did give the teens a place to go and changed their image of the library. Many of the teens joined the library's "teen advisory council".



Mardi Gras



Mardi Gras New Orleans [web site] : welcome to Mardi Gras New Orleans.com.

Internet Resource: <http://www.mardigrasneworleans.com/>

Summary: This Web site introduces visitors to the major participants of Mardi Gras in New Orleans, provides updates parade information, and contains information on Mardi Gras traditions such as beads, masks, and kingcakes. Get tips before you visit New Orleans and make the most of your Mardi Gras experience!

Louisiana [web site] : Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Louisiana. Dept. of Culture, Recreation & Tourism.

Internet Resource: <http://www.crt.state.la.us/>

Summary: This Web site is the official on-line resource for tourism and travel in the state of Louisiana. It invites visitors to come and explore the uniqueness of the area in terms of attractions, festivals, recreation, accommodations, and food. Discover what there is to do, make on-line reservations, locate special offers, explore scenic areas, view maps and transportation options, and much more. Now is the time to plan your getaway to experience Mardi Gras and more in Louisiana !

Celebrate! [web site] : holidays in the USA

United States. Information Agency. English Language Programs Division.

Internet Resource: <http://www.usemb.se/Holidays/celebrate/index.html>

Summary: This Web site provides visitors with information on the historical and social background of American holidays. Learn how the U.S. is blessed with rich ethnic heritage traces some holidays back to diverse cultural sources and traditions. In addition, the site lists the ten holidays per year declared by the federal government. Visitors may click on any of them to read detailed information.

Mardi Gras / Jill Foran

Summary: Provides information on the pre-Lenten festival of Mardi Gras, focusing on how it is celebrated in New Orleans

ISBN: 1590360931



Trippin' live [sound recording] / Dr. John.

Contents: Tipitina / Roy Bird -- Wild honey / Mac Rebennack, Robert Guidry Jr. -- Didn't he ramble / Harry Bolton -- Such a night / Mac Rebennack -- Renegade / Mac Rebennack, Gerry Goffin -- Kin folk / James Wayne -- Right place wrong time / Mac Rebennack -- My buddy / Gus Kahn, Walter Donaldson -- Medley. Down by the riverside arr. Mac Rebennack ; My indian red / arr. Danny Barker ; Mardi Gras day / Mac Rebennack ; I shall not be moved / arr. Mac Rebennack -- 24 hours a day, 365 days a year / Henry Glover, Rudolph Toombs -- Goodnight Irene / John Lomax, H. Ledbetter.



